

What does it mean if a disorder seems to run in my family?

Why are some conditions, such as Alzheimer Disease, inherited in some cases and not inherited in others?

What are the different ways in which a genetic condition can be inherited?

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Patients, their families, and the general public can find the answers to their genetic questions at Genetics Home Reference (<http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov>), a website from the National Library of Medicine.

- ★ Learn about the causes, characteristics, inheritance pattern, and frequency of different genetic conditions
- ★ Access hundreds of reliable linked information resources relating to your genetics questions
- ★ Explore lesson plans and activity guides for teachers and students

Experts in the international scientific community review condition, gene, and chromosome summaries before they are posted and with each substantial revision thereafter.

For consumer-friendly information about other health conditions and topics, visit **MedlinePlus:** [medlineplus.gov/](https://medlineplus.gov/)

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*Front panel photo by Ana Franciconi on Unsplash.com*

## Genetics Home Reference provides consumer-friendly information about the effects of genetic variation on human health.

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Learn about the signs and symptoms, causes, and inheritance of more than 1,200 health conditions with a genetic basis.

Find information about the function of more than 1,400 genes and see how changes in these genes are related to health conditions.

Explore topics in human genetics, from the basics of DNA to genomic research and personalized medicine.



Genetics Home Reference has summary pages for 1,200 specific genetically-based conditions, 1,400 genes, and each chromosome.

Search for a specific summary page, browse lists, navigate to teaching tools or learn about the fundamentals of genetics.

Summary page menus make it easy to find the information you need. The entire summary is also available as a printable PDF.

Some sections contain links to other trusted pages for more specific guidance.

You can also link to a relevant research study on ClinicalTrials.gov, the National Library of Medicine's registry of clinical studies.

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine

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Genetics Home Reference  
Your Guide to Understanding Genetic Conditions

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Health Conditions Genes Chromosomes & mtDNA Classroom Help Me Understand Genetics

## Down syndrome

Printable PDF Open All Close All

- Description
- Frequency
- Causes
- Inheritance Pattern
- Diagnosis & Management Links**
- Other Names for This Condition
- Additional Information & Resources
- Sources for This Page

▼ **Diagnosis & Management Links**

- Genetic Testing Information (2 links)
- Research Studies from ClinicalTrials.gov (1 link)
- ▼ **Other Diagnosis and Management Resources (5 links)**
  - MedlinePlus Medical Tests: Down Syndrome Tests
  - National Down Syndrome Congress: Health Care & Medical Resources
  - National Down Syndrome Congress: Speech and Language
  - National Down Syndrome Society: Health Care & Research
  - National Down Syndrome Society: Therapies & Development

**Related Information**

- [How we cover diagnosis and management of health conditions](#)
- [How are genetic conditions diagnosed?](#)
- [How are genetic conditions treated or managed?](#)
- [How can I find a genetics professional in my area?](#)